



7-15-02

3731

#11/56
7-25-02

Applicants: Vargas, Jaime S.; et. al.
Assignee: Vascular Innovations, Inc.
Title: Sutureless Closure and Deployment System for Connecting Blood Vessels
Serial No.: 09/664,588 Filing Date: September 18, 2000
Examiner: Not yet assigned Group Art Unit: 3731
Docket No.: 032405-016

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

**FOURTH SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR § 1.97(b)**

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In compliance with the Applicant's duty under 37 CFR § 1.56, the information listed on the accompanying form PTO-1449 is brought to the attention of the Examiner. A copy of each item listed on the accompanying form PTO-1449 is enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

The items identified in this Information Disclosure Statement may or may not be "material" pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.56, and the submission thereof by Applicant shall not be construed as an admission that any such patent, publication or other information referred to therein is material or considered to be material (37 CFR § 1.97(h)), or even qualifies as "prior art" under 35 USC § 102 with respect to this invention unless specifically designated by Applicant as such. Because this IDS is being submitted before receipt of the first Office Action, no fee is due.

An English language abstract of German-language reference DE 19732234 is provided in order to concisely explain its relevance, under MPEP 609 and 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3)(i). Additionally, U.S. patent no. 4,076,162, which is the U.S. counterpart of French reference 2,316,910, is provided to concisely explain its relevance, under MPEP 609 and 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3)(i).

This IDS is believed to be timely in that it is being submitted before receipt of the first Office Action under 37 CFR § 1.97(b), and thus no petition or fee is required.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Schar', is written over the word 'Respectfully' in the preceding line.

Brian A. Schar
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Reg. No. 45,076
Vascular Innovations, Inc.
171 Jefferson Drive
Menlo Park, CA 94025



Commissioner For Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

July 12, 2002

RECEIVED
Docket No.: 032405-016
JUL 17 2002

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Re: Applicant(s): Vargas, Jaime; et. al.
Assignee: Vascular Innovations, Inc.
Title: Sutureless Closure and Deployment System for Connecting Blood Vessels
Serial No.: 09/664,588
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Group Art Unit: 3731

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith are the following documents in the above-identified application:

- (1) Return Receipt Postcard;
- (2) This Transmittal Letter;
- (3) Form PTO-1449 and references; and
- (4) Fourth Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement.

☒ No additional fee is required.

☒ Conditional Petition for Extension of Time: If an extension of time is required for timely filing of the enclosed document(s) after all papers filed with this transmittal have been considered, an extension of time is hereby requested.

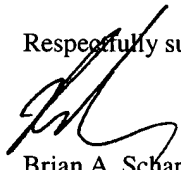
☐ Please charge our Deposit Account No. 502108 in the amount of \$ 0.00

☒ Please charge any additional fees required and credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 502108.

Total: \$ 0.00

EXPRESS MAIL NO. EV107871733US

Respectfully submitted,


Brian A. Schar
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Reg. No. 45,076